

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 09 November 1998
Name of applicant/court: Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: Emma & Max An Erotic Adventure
Other Known Titles: Emma & Max
Director: Not Applicable
Producer: Not Applicable
Publisher: Hodder Moa Beckett Publishers Limited
Authors: Lisa Meekison & Matthew Toms
Format: Book
Country of Origin: Australia
Language: English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Not Applicable.	Running time:
Trailers:		Running time:
		Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

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Display Conditions:

That when the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown on the publication; or any package in which the publication is kept and
That the publication must be publicly displayed only in a sealed package

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

Emma & Max An Erotic Adventure is classified as:
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Emma & Max An Erotic Adventure is a 234 page book with a soft cardboard cover. It measures 20cm high by 13cm wide and is approximately 1.5cm deep. The authors are Lisa Meekison & Matthew Toms and the book is written in English. It was originally published in Australia in 1997.

The restrictive classification is because of the books explicit and colloquial descriptions of sexual activity. The description of sexual activity is the predominant focus of the book with little effort being made to develop character or plot. There are several descriptions of coercion in association with sexual activity. All such descriptions involve the giving of consent in some form and therefore the impact of these descriptions is lessened to a certain extent. There is also concern about the lack of use of contraception and devices to protect the participants from sexually transmitted diseases. Also given that the purpose of the book is to sexually arouse and entertain the reader, there is no benefit to younger readers having access to the book. Indeed there is likely injury to the public good from its availability to persons under 18 years of age. This restriction on the availability of the book is reasonable and justified in terms of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

OFLC Ref: 9800685